

Section 5 Monitoring, Annual Review and Reporting

What is required?

The NPDES Phase II Final Rule and the MS4 General Permit require that the County as a Permittee report annually on the progress of SWMP implementation. The County must track and assess its program to ensure BMP effectiveness and must conform to other monitoring requirements that may be imposed by the RWQCB.

MS4 General Permit Section F cites the Permittee reporting, monitoring, and recordkeeping requirements as follows:

Reporting: “The Permittee must submit annual reports to the appropriate RWQCB by September 15th of each year, or as otherwise required by the RWQCB Executive Officer, unless exempted under MS4 General Permit Provision D.6. The report shall summarize the activities performed throughout the reporting period (July 1 through June 30) and must include:

- a. the status of compliance with permit conditions;
- b. an assessment of the appropriateness and effectiveness of the identified BMPs;
- c. the status of the identified measurable goals;
- d. the results of information collected and analyzed, including monitoring data, if any, during the reporting period;
- e. a summary of the stormwater activities the Permittee plans to undertake during the next reporting cycle;
- f. any proposed changes to the SWMP along with a justification of why the changes are necessary; and
- g. a change to the person or persons implementing and coordinating the SWMP.”

Monitoring:

Chemical monitoring by Permittees is not required by the MS4 General Permit. The RWQCB may impose additional monitoring requirements, which may include a reporting component. RWQCBs may adopt such requirements on an individual or group basis.

The MS4 General Permit says:

“Inspections, as a form of visual monitoring, are important to a stormwater program. Inspections of stormwater runoff and infrastructure (such as drop inlets, basins, and gutters) can say a lot about the effectiveness and needs of a stormwater program. Through inspections, non-stormwater discharges can be

discovered and subsequently stopped, maintenance needs can be identified, and visual pollutants and erosion problems can be detected. Inspections of facilities are also important for public education and outreach, to ensure proper BMP implementation and maintenance, and to detect non-stormwater discharges. Additionally, chemical monitoring can be used to involve the public through citizen monitoring groups, detect pollutants, identify and target pollutants of concern, illustrate water quality improvements and permit compliance, and participate in TMDL development and implementation.”

“More specifically, the objectives of a monitoring program may include:

- Assessing compliance with this General Permit
- Measuring and improving the effectiveness of the SWMP
- Assessing the chemical, physical, and biological impacts on receiving waters resulting from urban runoff
- Characterizing stormwater discharges
- Identifying source of pollutants; and
- Assessing the overall health and evaluating long-term trends in receiving water quality.”

Recordkeeping Requirements: “The Permittee must keep records required by the MS4 General Permit for at least five years or the duration of the General Permit if continued. The RWQCB Executive Officer may specify a longer time for record retention. The Permittee must submit the records to the RWQCB Executive Officer upon request. The Permittee must make the records, including the permit and SWMP, available to the public during regular business hours.”

Why is it necessary?

“The MS4 General Permit requires that regulated Small MS4s (Permittees) develop a SWMP designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) and to protect water quality. The SWRCB finds that the MEP standard is an ever-evolving, flexible, and advancing concept, which considers technical and economic feasibility. As knowledge about controlling urban runoff continues to evolve, so does that which constitutes MEP. Reducing the discharge of stormwater pollutants to MEP in order to protect beneficial uses requires review and improvement, which includes seeking new opportunities. To do this, the Permittee must conduct and document evaluation and assessment of each relevant element of its program and revise activities, control measures, BMPs, and measurable goals, as necessary to meet MEP. The purpose of the annual performance review is to evaluate:

- (1) the SWMP’s effectiveness;
- (2) the implementation of the SWMP;
- (3) the status of measurable goals; and
- (4) effectiveness of BMPs; and

(5) improvement opportunities to achieve MEP.”

Assessment, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting Procedures for the County

The County will evaluate the effectiveness of the SWMP by reviewing the results of BMP implementation and progress made toward meeting the measurable goals. As part of the annual evaluation, a plan for updating and refining the SWMP will be developed. The evaluation and update procedures will be submitted, by the County, to the RWQCB on an annual basis.

The main purpose of the SWMP is to improve water quality in the receiving waters in the SWMP coverage area. It is important to monitor water quality to determine whether or not improvements are taking place. The Phase II Stormwater regulations note that it may be infeasible for jurisdictions to develop independent water quality monitoring programs. As a result, a jurisdiction may monitor water quality individually or take part in regional monitoring efforts.

Non-profit organizations and other agencies in San Luis Obispo County are currently monitoring water quality in the county and the Central Coast region. These groups have relatively well-developed programs. The most effective means of monitoring water quality improvements under this SWMP will be achieved through coordination with this existing monitoring network. The County can provide support to these programs by providing opportunities to increase public education and awareness and by assisting in obtaining grant funds. The County can also provide a central location for synthesizing information and for reporting results. Continued monitoring at the regional level will provide a better overall picture of water quality in the County and will make the most efficient use of County resources.

Inspections, as a form of visual monitoring, are a key aspect of the County's stormwater management program. Storm sewer and county facility stormwater pollution prevention inspections are incorporated into the SWMP. In addition, the County's public education and outreach and public participation and involvement BMPs such as the storm drain marking and adopt-a-drain programs are intended to increase stormwater awareness and watershed stewardship enabling citizens to monitor the storm sewer system in addition to inspections by county employees.

In addition to monitoring water quality and visual inspections, the County will monitor the individual BMPs in the SWMP. Monitoring the individual BMPs will include receiving public comments, keeping track of activities, and collecting any other information that may assist the County in evaluating the BMPs.

Evaluation of the SWMP will occur at two levels: 1) evaluation of individual BMPs and 2) evaluation of overall program effectiveness. The effectiveness of

individual BMPs will be assessed on an annual basis in terms of progress made toward achieving the measurable goals. Construction site BMPs will be assessed real time as they are implemented and inspected at construction sites. The most common way to assess the overall effectiveness of stormwater management is through chemical monitoring of water quality; however, there are a number of factors that affect water quality that are outside the County's control and it may take some years before measurable water quality improvements are manifest.

The County will be participating in and supporting regional water quality monitoring efforts; however, due to the shortcomings mentioned above, the County will consider other indirect measurements as well to evaluate the effectiveness of the SWMP including, but not limited to, the following:

- Increases in the amount of sediment and debris removed from streets and catch basins
- Declines in hazardous materials spills;
- Declines in the number of complaints of illegal dumping;
- Increases in the number of development projects that are being required to implement BMPs;
- Increases in the number of construction sites that are implementing BMPs;
- Increases in inspection frequencies; and
- Other special studies developed to evaluate the effectiveness of specific BMPs.

Since much of this data has never been collected before, this first five-year permit term will be important for collecting baseline data to enable more specific and accurate measurable goals to be established in the future.

The evaluation of the SWMP will result in submittal of an annual work plan, program assessment, and annual report to the RWQCB. The work plan will outline the proposed changes to the SWMP and the projects proposed for the following year. Submittal of a work plan will assist the County in defining budgets for the following year and will identify the County's goals for the various departments involved in implementation of the work plan.

The County's SWMP assessment will review the program's effectiveness in terms of criteria outlined above, the project's compliance within the current regulatory framework, and progress made towards regional planning efforts. It is recognized that as the Phase II Final Rule is implemented, the County must keep abreast of revisions to the Phase II Final Rule and other applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. The SWMP must be assessed for any updates needed to comply with any new requirements that result from revised regulation.

Assessment of progress made toward regional planning coordination is also important to the success of the program because water quality concerns are best

addressed on a watershed scale. Currently, the County is working with other jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations within the County and beyond to develop regional planning mechanisms. The County anticipates further development of these relationships over the five-year permit term.

Based on the SWMP evaluation, revisions to the SWMP will be made as necessary. This update process will allow the SWMP to continuously improve to better fit the needs of the regulated communities. This closed-loop iterative process of assessment, development, implementation, and evaluation gives the County a means to continuously improve the SWMP to better address water quality concerns in San Luis Obispo County now and in the future.

State Water Resources Control Board
NOTICE OF INTENT
TO COMPLY WITH THE TERMS OF THE GENERAL PERMIT FOR
STORM WATER DISCHARGES FROM
SMALL MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS

I. NOI Status

Mark Only One Item	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Permittee	2. <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Information WDID #: _____
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II. Agency Information

A. Agency San Luis Obispo County			
B. Contact Person Mark Hutchinson		C. Title Environmental Programs Manager	
D. Mailing Address County Government Center		E. Address (Line 2) Room 207	
F. City San Luis Obispo	G. State CA	H. Zip 93408	I. County San Luis Obispo
J. Phone 805-781-5458	K. FAX 805-788-2768	L. Email Address mhutchinson@co.slo.ca.us	
M. Operator Type (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> City <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> Special District <input type="checkbox"/> Government Combination			

III. Permit Area

San Luis Obispo County

IV. Boundaries of Coverage (include a site map with the submittal)

Refer to boundary maps in Appendix A of the SWMP attached.

V. Billing Information

A. Agency County of San Luis Obispo	
B. Contact Person Mark Hutchinson	C. Title Environmental Programs Manager
D. Mailing Address County Government Center	E. Address (Line 2) Room 207
F. City San Luis Obispo	G. State CA
H. Zip 93408	I. County San Luis Obispo
J. Phone 805-781-5458	K. FAX 805-788-2768
L. Email Address mhutchinson@co.slo.ca.us	
M. Population 57,967	N. Fee Schedule
	<input type="checkbox"/> Population greater than 250,000 \$20,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 200,000 and 249,999 \$17,500 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 150,000 and 199,999 \$15,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 100,000 and 149,999 \$12,500 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 75,000 and 99,999 \$10,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population between 50,000 and 74,999 \$7,500 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 25,000 and 49,999 \$5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 10,000 and 24,999 \$2,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 1,000 and 9,999 \$2,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Population between 0 and 1,000 \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> I.R. - 12 School District Exempt
SWRCB Tax ID (ie: 68-0281986)	

VI. Discharger Information (check applicable box(es) and complete corresponding information)

1. ☒ Applying for Individual General Permit Coverage

2. ☐ Applying for a permit with one or more co-permittees

The undersigned agree to work as co-permittees in implementing a complete small MS4 storm water program. The program must comply with the requirements found in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, parts 122.32. Attach additional sheets if necessary. Each co-permittee must complete an NOI.

Lead Agency	Signature
Agency	Signature
Agency	Signature
Agency	Signature

3. ☐ Separate Implementing Entity (SIE)

A. Agency			
B. Contact Person		C. Title	
D. Mailing Address		E. Address (Line 2)	
F. City	State CA	G. Zip	H. County
I. Phone	J. FAX	K. Email Address	
H. Operator Type (check one)			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> City 2. <input type="checkbox"/> County 3. <input type="checkbox"/> State 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Federal 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Special District 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Government Combination			
Minimum Control Measures being implemented by the SIE (check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Education		<input type="checkbox"/> Public Involvement	
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction		<input type="checkbox"/> Post Construction	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Illicit Discharge/Elimination	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Good Housekeeping	
<p>"I agree to coordinate with the agency identified in Section II of this form and comply with its qualifying storm water program. I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction and supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information submitted is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment. Additionally, I certify that the provisions of the permit including the development and implementation of a Storm Water Management Program, will be complied with."</p>			
N. Signature of Official		Date	

VII. Storm Water Management Plan (check box)

☒ The SWMP is attached.

VIII. Certification

<p>"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction and supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information submitted is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment. Additionally, I certify that the provisions of the permit including the development and implementation of a Storm Water Management Program, will be complied with."</p>	
A. Printed Name: <u>Noel R. King</u>	
B. Title: <u>Director of Public Works</u>	
C. Signature: <u>Noel King</u>	D. Date: <u>3/5/03</u>